

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC YO

SUBJ: 1976/7 FULBRIGHT PROGRAM: TRAVEL ONLY GRANTS

REF: BELGRADE 6951

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NOTE FROM FAISECTC, DATED OCT 19, REFERRING TO OUR NOTE (REPORTED REFTEL) ON THE SUBJECT OF TRAVEL-ONLY GRANTS. IN BRIEF, FAISECTC SAYS THAT BOTH SIDES HAVE FOUND THE FULBRIGHT EXCHANGE VALUABLE AND WISH TO CONTINUE IT IN SPIRIT OF COOPERATION. HOPES THAT CURRENT MISUNDERSTANDING WILL NOT ADVERSELY EFFECT FUTURE COOPERATION. ACKNOWLEDGES THAT POSSIBLE CAUSE OF MISUNDERSTANDING WAS IMBALANCE ON YUGOSLAV SIDE OF PROGRAM, WHICH THEY HAVE AGREED TO CORRECT FOR 1977/8. HOWEVER, US SIDE REQUESTED IN JANUARY, 1975, THAT PROGRAM BE ORIENTED "PRIMARILY" TOWARD SOCIAL SCIENCES. THIS WAS NOT, NOTE CONTINUES, ACCEPTED BY YUGOSLAV SIDE (SIC) NOR CAN IT BE SINCE IT DOES NOT ACCORD WITH NEEDS AND INTERESTS OF YUGOSLAV UNIVERSITIES. AS FAR AS TRAVEL-ONLY GRANTS ARE CONCERNED, YUGOSLAV SIDE BELIEVES DISCUSSION SHOULD END AND THAT COMMISSION SHOULD AWARD THEM AS SET FORTH IN THE PROGRAM PROPOSAL, I.ZHMN UNSPECIFIED AS TO FIELD.

2. COMMENT: IF NOTE IS REPLY OF YUGOSLAV SIDE TO US OFFER AT LAST AYEC MEETING (THAT GRANTS BE AWARDED ON 60/40 BASIS BETWEEN SCIENCE AND SOCIAL SCIENCE AND THAT ALL WHO COMPETED BE NOMINATED FOR HONORARY GRANTS), APPEARS THAT WE HAVE BEEN TURNED DOWN, AND THAT YUGOSLAV SIDE INSISTS GRANTS BE AWARDED TO THE 40 PERSONS THEY HAVE RECOMMENDED

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DESPITE FACT THIS INCONSISTENT WITH EARLIER AGREEMENT

(WHICH PRESENT NOTE DISCLAIMS) THAT IN
1976/7 PROGRAM SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES WOULD RECEIVE
GREATER EMPHASIS.

3. THAT BEING THE CASE, POST SEES NO POINT IN CONTINUING
DIALOGUE OF DEAF WITH YUGOSLAV SIDE ON THIS SUBJECT. WE
THEREFORE PLAN SEND REPLY ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT OF NOTE,
EXPRESSING OUR AGREEMENT THAT ALL DESIRE COOPERATION TO
CONTINUE, REMINDING THEM THAT YUGOSLAV SIDE DID,
INDEED, AGREE TO GIVE GREATER PRIORITY TO SOCIAL
SCIENCES IN THIS PROGRAM YEAR AS SET FORTH IN THE PROGRAM
PROPOSAL, AND STATING THAT SINCE YUGOSLAV SIDE SEEMS TO
HAVE REJECTED US SIDE'S SUGGESTION THAT TRAVEL-ONLY GRANTS BE
AWARDED ON 60/40 BASIS, NO PURPOSE SERVED IN DISCUSSING POINT

FURTHER. US SIDE THEREFORE RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS THAT SUBJECT
OF TRAVEL-ONLY GRANTS NOT BE INCLUDED IN AGENDA FOR DEC 6
MEETING SO THAT COMMISSION CAN SPEND ITS TIME MORE PRODUCTIVELY
DISCUSSING ITEMS UPON WHICH IT CAN REACH AGREEMENT.

4. COPY OF NOTE AND TRANSLATION BEING POUCHED.

SWEITZER

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